

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-11 are pending.

Claims 12-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102 for allegedly being anticipated by Yamada (U.S. Pat. No. 4,288,874).

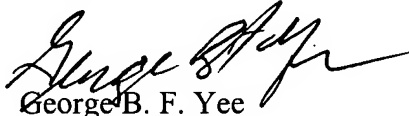
It is noted with appreciation that claims 2-11 are allowed.

The Section 102 rejection of claims 12-18 is traversed. However, in order to conclude prosecution of the instant application, claims 12-18 have been canceled without prejudice.

Pending claims 2-11 are believed to be in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,


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